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Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board held August 27, 2020  
in the Boardroom of the Kenora District Services Board in Dryden  
and via Zoom videoconferencing  
commencing at 10:00 am

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**PRESENT Via Videoconference:** Barry Baltessen: Lake of the Woods North; Bob Stewart: Lake of the Woods South; Dan Sutton: Township of Ear Falls; Doug Lawrance: Municipality of Sioux Lookout; Fred Mota: Municipality of Red Lake; Ron Kujansuu: Municipality of Machin

**PRESENT Via Boardroom:** Andrew Nisly: Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls; Andrew Poirier: City of Kenora; Ed Murray: Oxdrift Unincorporated; Mark Sobchuk: Lac Seul Unincorporated; Martin MacKinnon: City of Dryden; Penny Lucas: Township of Ignace

**REGRETS:** Dwight Monck: Township of Pickle Lake

**STAFF:** Henry Wall: Chief Administrative Officer; Sarah Stevenson: Director of Integrated Social Services; Corrine Owen: Director of Finance; Andrew Tickner: Director/Chief of Emergency Medical Services; Ben Reynolds: Director of Infrastructure; Roberta Lappage: Communications Officer; Holly McGogy: Human Resources Coordinator; Tyler Johnson: Human Resources Coordinator; Kaitlin Cain: Executive Coordinator

**GUESTS:** Frank Lopez: Grant Thornton; Christy McClland: Grant Thornton

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. and acknowledged that the meeting was being held on Treaty #3 territory.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**2.1 Resolution to Approve the Amended Agenda**

**MOTION NO.: 2020 - 158**

Moved by Fred Mota  
Seconded by Dan Sutton

**RESOLVED THAT** the Board of Directors approves the agenda, as amended, for the special meeting of the Board to be held on Thursday, August 27, 2020 in the Boardroom of the Kenora District Services Board in Dryden and via Zoom video conference.

CALLED; CARRIED

**ACTION: File**

**3. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST AND THE GENERAL NATURE THEREOF**

The Chair called for declarations of pecuniary interest and the general nature thereof under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act with respect to the Agenda for this meeting.

*No member declared a pecuniary interest with respect to the agenda.*

The Chair called upon members present for declarations of pecuniary interest and the general nature thereof under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act, for minutes of previous meetings at which a member was not in attendance and which had not previously been declared.

*No member declared a pecuniary interest with respect to the previous minutes.*

#### **4. REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

##### **4.1 Chief Administrative Officer**

###### **4.1.1 Red Lake Evacuation Round Table Update**

CAO: needed to formally recognize our staff with helping with the Red Lake Fire Evacuation. It was encouraging to see everyone stepping up. Wanted to acknowledge our staff and leadership for their work. We would reconcile later as that was what was communicated to the province with money spent on food, gas, transportation etc. Will figure out with Ministry afterwards.

DISS: Sarah has early numbers. We were notified at 8:50 Monday night that an evacuation was under way and we needed support Red Lake emergency shelter. The Manager contacted a hotel in Dryden. They and their husband drove their vans to evacuate everyone. Corrine and Sarah met with team on Tuesday morning with what was going on. Had not met with the City of Dryden yet but the arena was open. We mobilized a team and met with the City of Dryden to determine their needs. KDSB provided \$30 gift cards through emergency Ontario Management. Looked at further with KDSB roles and responsibilities with those who were on OW and ODSP, made arrangements for individuals to attend emergency evacuation center in Dryden and looked for more appropriate accommodations. Reached out via phone to tenants of non-profit if they knew an evacuation as underway, they were not, and some were part of the air transportation out. On Wednesday, OPP did door knocks. One situation where a concerned family member could not get in touch with a family member, OPP knocked on the door and they opened. Worked closely with Lions Clubs, Rotary and Masons in Dryden who wanted to support. Cisco food was going to donate \$15,000 for food. We took that order, ought it, doubled it, and created food hampers for distribution. Lions international in Vermillion Bay also received a donation from central and communicated with KDSB to ensure no overlap. Provided that provision until fire was under control and when people were able to return to their homes. Corrine and Sarah's team were great – they figured out their own schedules and helped support one another when Corrine and Sarah could focus on the finance piece. Sarah has early numbers. \$20,000 remaining in food product, anything that was open and difficult to transport when to Dryden food bank. Everything else went to Red Lake Women's Shelter, Emergency Shelter and Indian Friendship Center. Would be able to provide a more fulsome report next week.

EMS: Andy Trudgen was our duty officer at the first few days and did a great job. Evacuating extended care and hospital patients on a bus, should have moved them prior to everyone else because what normally takes 30 minutes to drive took close to 4 hours. Some were evacuated by air. The road stayed open, which was our biggest concern that it would close. The staff they all stood up and did a great job. We were contacted by the MNR with testing and swabbing of patients, but they figured out a plan as that was their biggest concerns with staff.

DOF: Gift cards and local vendors and restaurant provides who stepped forward. First day started with local restaurants and business. Moved into the grocery stores to make sure people had access to food and other products. We bought Safeway out of all gift cards they had. The local community was amazing to work with.

DIS: Our facility manager worked with Sarah. It was important to focus on protecting our assets. We learned a few things in case something like this ever happens again. One of projects has been slightly delayed.

Fred: From leaders and communities, it's hard to put everything into words for the support Red Lake received from the Evacuation. On Monday when the state of emergency was declared, the

fire was going down highway 105, that fire came ¾ of a kilometer of coming to the highway, near gas lines, fiberoptic, etc. That was the main reason for the evacuation as that highway is the main artery. Another main reason, the fire came close into Madison. The challenge we were facing early was the winds because there was no rain in the forecast. Water bombers were heavily used at the beginning. On Wednesday, the smoke was heavy, then the winds changed, and the smoke left the community. We got a bit of rain on Thursday, and on Friday we got more rain and that really helped contain the fire. If those rains did not come, Red Lake would have been in a jeopardize situation. Some challenges were getting flights in to get people out, but it worked out. Thank-you to everyone, all the communities, who helped with this evacuation. It's great to see how everyone bonds in north Western Ontario. Working with MMAH to work out costing, going to be trying to secure a meeting with Minister Clark. We didn't have days to plan this evacuation, we had hours and minutes.

Mark: Working with tourist camps and the people are incredibly appreciative of KDSB' services. Red Lake team were incredibly appreciative. It's amazing to see how we all came together as a community. Want to acknowledge the staff of KSB in a formal way.

A formal letter from the Board to be sent to KDSB staff for their hard work during the evacuation.

4.1.2 Resolution to submit a business case

**MOTION NO.: 2020 - 159**

Moved by Doug Lawrance  
Seconded by Bob Stewart

**RESOLVED** THAT the Board of Directors accepts the Chief Administrative Officer's verbal report BR2020-1143 Social Services Relief Fund (SSRF) Phase 2.

AND

**AUTHORIZES** the Chief Administrative Officer to prepare and submit a Business Case for the Kenora District Services Board to the Ministry for the use of the Phase 2 allocation by September 11, 2020.

**CALLED; CARRIED**

**ACTION: CAO**

Allocation has been nearly cut in half from our last allocation. We are looking at what we need which is approximately 3 million. Need a place to get people out of the elements. Currently, 200-300 people living in the rough in Kenora that are not part of the shelter system. More in Sioux Lookout, Pickle Lake, etc. We have been told this is subject to change, part of the business case we are looking at an isolation center in Kenora and additional housing in Kenora and food security, in Dryden housing options for individuals including a warming center, Sioux lookout a warming center and housing options. People will also need to self-isolate before they return home, but where will they go. We haven't seen this yet because hospitals cancelled surgeries; but as things are opening up, there will be increased pressure.

Fred: We need to demonstrate we need the money, we can't just ask for it, to show why this money is needed for our communities.

Doug: In Sioux Lookout the numbers on the street, I've never seen so many people on the street since post covid-19. We need a business case for what we really need.

Henry: Our business case we may need to be harsh with some of the realities; however, we are going to see a huge loss of life form our vulnerable communities like we have never seen before if we do not get this funding.

Andrew: What do we think the success is if we do not receive the extra money?

Henry: there will be a challenge, but those are questions and items we will have to discuss. We plan to bring the business case forward at our September meeting.

Barry: they way I read the information from the Ministry, I think they are open for a business plan. We have to remember the province has provided us lots of funding and we should continue to work with the government, and we should put together the business plan with data.

4.1.3 Resolution to accept CAO's report

**MOTION NO.: 2020 - 160**

Moved by Andrew Poirier  
Seconded by Martin MacKinnon

**RESOLVED THAT** the Board of Directors accepts the Chief Administrative Officer's verbal report BR2020-1144 Federal Safe Restart Funding (SRF).

CALLED; CARRIED

**ACTION: CAO**

KDSB has been allocated \$900,000 for a safe re-opening for EarlyOn and Child Care Centers. Have questions regarding our Indigenous led programs; however, this is going to help. Sarah and team will have a bit more work in rolling this out, but we will have a good plan in rolling this out. Our new normal will allow parents in our communities to have access to childcare. We will support our operators and staff the best we can in rolling this out.

**5. IN-CAMERA**

5.1 Resolution to convene to In-Camera meeting

**MOTION NO.: 2020 - 161**

Moved by Penny Lucas  
Seconded by Andrew Nisly

**RESOLVED THAT** the Board of Directors convenes to an In-Camera meeting on August 27, 2020 at 10:55 am

CALLED; CARRIED

**ACTION: File**

5.2 Resolution to approve Agenda for In-Camera meeting

**MOTION NO.: 2020 - 162**

Moved by Ed Murray  
Seconded by Andrew Poirier

**RESOLVED THAT** the Board of Directors approves the agenda, for an In-Camera meeting on August 27, 2020.

CALLED; CARRIED

**ACTION: File**

**2.3 first**

5.3 Resolution to resume public meeting.

**MOTION NO.: 2020 - 163**

Moved by Andrew Nisly  
Seconded by Ron Kujansuu

**RESOLVED THAT** the Board of Directors resumes the public Board meeting August 27, 2020.

CALLED; CARRIED

**ACTION: File**

6.4 **BUSINESS ARISING FROM IN-CAMERA**

6.4.1 Resolution to negotiate and execute final lease agreement

**MOTION NO.: 2020 - 164**

Moved by Martin MacKinnon  
Seconded by Penny Lucas

**RESOLVED THAT** the Board of Directors receives and accepts the Director of Finances' report BR2020-1140 Ear Falls Child Care Facility Lease Agreement;

AND

THAT the Board of Directors authorize the Chief Administrative Officer and Director of Finance to complete negotiations and execute a final lease agreement with the Township of Ear Falls.

CALLED; CARRIED

**ACTION: CAO**

6.4.2 Resolution to execute transfer payment agreement

**MOTION NO.: 2020 - 165**

Moved by  
Seconded by

**RESOLVED THAT** the Board of Directors accepts the Chief Administrative Officer's verbal report BR2020-1141 All Nations Health Partners – OHT Funding;

AND FURTHER,

THAT the Board of Directors accept the nomination by the All Nations Health Partners for the Kenora District Services Board to be the transfer payment recipient for the Ontario Health Team Implementation Fund;

AND FURTHER,

THAT the Board approve and authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to execute the necessary transfer payment agreement(s) with the Ministry of Health.

CALLED; CARRIED

**ACTION: CAO**

**8. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES/TASK FORCES**

None

**9. RESOLUTIONS**

None

**10. NEW BUSINESS**

Last week had the virtual AMO conference. This year was held virtually. KDSB had 8 confirmed meetings: two with PA's, five with Minister's. Tomorrow there will be one with a Minister because they wanted to meet with KDSB and Parliamentary Assistant. In preparation, Sarah, Roberta and Kaitlin have been working on the briefing note with vacant jobs. There are 450 vacant jobs across the region. We need to ask why the Employer's cannot fill these jobs. We know part of the reason: housing. The meeting will focus on loss economic opportunity. Sarah has been working with the Ministry to bring some concepts here. They met yesterday to go over multiple business plans to be submitted. After meeting, we were setting up meetings with Solicitor General for further discussion. We may come back with transitional housing with a focus on justice housing. Working on a briefing note to focus on long-term care with Ministry of Communities. Lot's of work is coming out from AMO. Wanted an opportunity to discuss strategy for SSRF.

**11. COMMUNICATIONS**

None

**12. NOTICES OF MOTIONS**

None

**13. PETITIONS**

None

**14. CLOSURE**

**MOTION NO.: 2020 - 166**

Moved by Ed Murray  
Seconded by Andrew Poirier

**RESOLVED THAT** the Board of Directors adjourns the August 27, 2020 meeting.

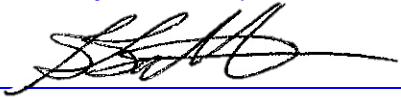
CALLED; CARRIED

**ACTION: File**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 pm

**Approved by Resolution No. 2020-169**

**This 17 day of September, A.D. 2020.**

  
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**Chair**